

themselves, and would amount to *forty* miles on the average, and between the tropics, near the line of greatest variation, to *several degrees*; whereas it is well known that by the lunar method, the probable error in longitude is less than *six* miles, and may be reduced to *four* by means of half a dozen observed eclipses of Jupiter's first satellite.

Mr. Walker concluded by remarking that although, in stating the practical objections to the method, he had taken Dr. Sherwood's postulates for granted, yet he considered every one of them as contrary to facts, observation, and experience.

Dr. Bache announced the death of Charles Maurice Talleyrand, Prince of Benevento, a member of the Society, who died on the 17th of May, 1838, aged 83.

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*Stated Meeting, August 17.*

Present, eighteen members.

Mr. DU PONCEAU, President, in the Chair.

The following donations were received:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Communication from Governor Marcy to the Legislature of New York, relative to the Geological Survey of the State, for the year 1837. With Plates. Albany, 1838.—*From Messrs. L. Vanuxem and T. A. Conrad.*

The same work.—*From William Meredith, Esq.*

The Light-Houses, Beacons, and Floating Lights of the United States, for 1838. Prepared by order of Stephen Pleasonton, Fifth Auditor. Washington, 1838.—*From Stephen Pleasonton, Esq.*

The American Journal of the Medical Sciences. Edited by Isaac Hays, M. D. No. XLIV, for August. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the Editor.*

The American Medical Library and Intelligencer. Edited by R. Dunglison, M. D. Vol. II. Nos. 8, 9, & 10. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the Editor.*

- American Quarterly Register. Conducted by B. B. Edwards and W. Cogswell. Vol. X., and Vol. XI. No. 1. Boston, 1838.—*From Mr. W. Cogswell.*
- Twenty-second Annual Report of the Directors of the American Education Society. May, 1838. Boston, 1838.—*From the same.*
- Notes respecting certain Indian Mounds and Earthworks, chiefly in the Wisconsin Territory, U. S. By Richard C. Taylor, Esq. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the Author.*
- Alphabetical and Analytical Catalogue of the New York Society Library. New York, 1838.—*From Mr. Philip I. Forbes.*
- An Eulogy on the Life and Character of Nathaniel Bowditch, LL. D., F.R.S. By Daniel Appleton White. Salem, 1838.—*From the Author.*
- A Discourse on the Life and Character of the Hon. Nathaniel Bowditch, LL. D., F.R.S. By Alexander Young. Boston, 1838.—*From the Author.*
- Atlas Classica. By H. S. Tanner. No. 9. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the Author.*
- Twentieth Annual Report of the American Bible Society. New York, 1836.—*From J. J. Barclay, Esq.*
- Journal of the Proceedings of the Fifty-fourth Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the same.*
- Annual Report of the Regents of the University of the State of New York. Made to the Legislature, March 1, 1838. Albany, 1838.—*From the Albany Institute.*
- Journal of the Senate of Pennsylvania, Session 1837-38. Vols. I. & II., and Appendix to Vol. II. Harrisburg, 1837-8.—*From the State of Pennsylvania.*
- Journal of the Forty-eighth House of Representatives of Pennsylvania. Vols. I. & II., and Appendix to Vol. II. Harrisburg, 1837-8.—*From the same.*
- Report of the State Treasurer, showing the Receipts and Expenditures of Pennsylvania for the year ending on the thirty-first of October, 1837. Harrisburg, 1837.—*From the same.*
- Letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting a Report of a Survey around the Falls of Niagara, with a view to a Ship Canal, made, in 1835, under the direction of Capt. W. G. Williams, of the U. S. Topog. Engineers. With numerous Maps. Washington, 1836.—*From Col. J. J. Abert.*

- Report from the Secretary of War, transmitting the Report of Lieut. R. E. Lee, U. S. Engineers, on the Rock River and Des Moines Rapids of the Mississippi River, and on the Harbour of St. Louis. With Maps. Washington, 1838.—*From the same.*
- Maps of the Kennebeck and Androscoggin Rivers, and of Wilson's and Winthrop Ponds, &c. Washington, 1838.—*From the same.*
- Report from the Secretary of War, transmitting Reports of the Surveys of the Mouths of Milwaukie, Root, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, and Kewaunee Rivers, and of Havre Bay. Washington, 1838.—*From the same.*
- Map of Cape May Roads, including Crow Shoal, Delaware Bay. By Hartman Bache, Major of Topog. Engineers. September, 1836.—*From the Author.*
- Chart of the Entrance of Sandusky Bay. By Lieut. C. Graham. 1826.—*From Major Hartman Bache.*
- Map of the Mouth of the Connecticut River and Saybrook Harbour. Reduced from the original Survey of J. W. Adams. Washington, 1838.—*From the same.*
- The American Journal of Science and Arts. Conducted by Benjamin Silliman, M. D., LL. D., aided by Benjamin Silliman, Jr., A. B. Vol. XXXIII. No. 2, and Vol. XXXIV. Nos. 1 & 2.—*From the Conductors.*

On motion of Dr. Patterson, a Committee was appointed to observe the eclipse of the Sun of the 18th of September next. Committee, Dr. Patterson, Mr. Walker, Mr. Paine, and Capt. Talcott.